

From: Dom Yarnell
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/22/02 11:39am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

My name is Dominique Yarnell and I would like to voice my opinion concerning the Microsoft Antitrust case.

Actually, I would like to voice my opinion concerning antitrust law, since it is of a far greater threat to our nation than companies that are arbitrarily defined as monopolies. The very idea of punishing a company for its success is so anti-american that it makes me sick. Unfortunately, such government intervention into the realm of private enterprise seems to be a trend that has been all too prevalent throughout the twentieth, and into the twenty-first century.

Why does the government intervene in the marketplace? As a student of economics, I am familiar with concepts like, "economic surplus," and realize that relatively large firms in any industry will result in less of that surplus. But where is the justification for maximizing economic surplus? Is our government to ensure that goods and services are to be delivered "from those of the greatest ability to those of the greatest need?"

Capitalistic competition has led our country to its current state of technological and economic superiority. Antitrust law, a weapon wielded by comparatively inefficient firms against the most productive firm in a given industry, works to undermine our global superiority. This weapon is not one of free market competition, but of political pull and bullying. As such, antitrust law can only result in a decrease of overall production and an increase in overall corruption.

For the sake of my beloved country, I hope you take my words to heart.

Sincerely,

Dominique Yarnell

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